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## Moderator's Message ... The Profession of Medicine

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## Moderator's Message . . .

My dear physicians:

First, my profound apologies for failing to make the Board meeting in Atlantic City June 21. I had every intention of going, had my reservations all set, etc., until I had to change plans at the last minute owing to a meeting with one of "my" bishops here in Washington at the same time. In all my years as local and more recently as national chaplain, I've never failed to attend; please forgive me this time.

I referred above to "my" bishops. As you have probably noted in the press, I have resigned St. Joseph's Parish in Shreveport after 9 years, to accept the invitation of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops to direct the work of the newly established Secretariat for World Justice and Peace of the N.C.C.B. The N.C.C.B. established a seven-bishop committee, headed by Bishop John Dougherty of Newark, to guide and give impetus to this work.

Since June 15 I have been in the throes of establishing an office here in Washington, hiring personnel, and trying to launch a preliminary program. The priorities for these first months are:

1. Interpretation of Council documents and encyclicals related to world justice and peace, especially with a view to implementation.
2. Liaison with the Pontifical Commission.
3. Recommendation to Bishops of Dioceses of programs, committees, seminars, etc. to "arouse God's people to their full maturity as Christians," to use Pope Paul's words.
4. Coordination of liaison with non-Catholic organizations in this field.
5. Study relationships to existing U.S.C.C. departments operating at the international level.

Do remember the urgent problems and the challenging responsibilities so obvious in the areas of world justice and peace in your prayers and good works. And please note my new address in your files.

Msgr. Marvin Bordelon  
Director, Secretariat for World Justice and Peace  
National Conference of Catholic Bishops  
1312 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20005

I look forward to being with you all at the mid-winter meeting in California. Meanwhile, may God be very good to you.

In Him,

VERY REV. MSGR. MARVIN BORDELON